

TAILWIND

TRAVIS AFB, CALIF.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2001

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 37



TRICARE FOR LIFE

Substantial savings on the way for TRICARE members.



EVER VIGILANT

Security Forces keep Travis' homes, workplaces safe.



JAMMIN'

Big names support Band of the Golden Wests' recruiting efforts.

STOP LOSS

Department of Defense authorizes Stop Loss

VIEW POINT

AMC commander asks for commitment and dedication



Let
Forge-ing ahead
See Page 21

Team Travis bowled over with programs

60th Services Squadron

As with Travis Bowling Center's other summer activities, the "King of the Hill" competition has been declared a winner and serves as a springboard for a sure-fire success in the center's winter league line-up as well.

"The King of the Hill competition turned out to be one of the best events I have had the pleasure of directing," Bowling Center Operations Coordinator Helen Stinson said. "The quality of bowling, as well as the quality of sportsmanship was exceptional."

The King of the Hill competition, which lasted eight weeks, consisted of seven qualifying events that began July 11. The winners of these events then advanced to the finals.

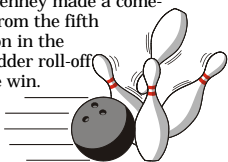
The format of this competition included four games of match play on eight lanes, with bowlers competing against a different opponent each game. Each match game winner was given 25 bonus points per game. The top five total pins then went into a stepladder roll-off.

Frank Guyton won the competition's opening qualifier round with a whopping score of 900.

Scott Sawall, who averaged a little over 222 points in five

games, beat out stiff competition in the second week. Ten bowlers rolled a total of 25 games with a 200-plus score in this round. Dick Young and Jim Raudy shot the week's high score with 267 points each.

During the July 25 qualifier, Ken Behney made a comeback from the fifth position in the stepladder roll-off for the win.



Raudy was top seed going into the week's competition with a 1,058, which included a 275-point game.

Behney once again ran away from the other competitors when he won the Aug. 1 qualifier with a score of 1,084. This score included games of 268 and 270. Troy Ham placed second and also secured a spot in the finals. Behney also beat out 19 other entrants in the Aug. 8 qualifier with scores of 209, 279, 286, 245 and 278. The round's final stepladder featured Behney with a 244 and Sam Rothenbaum with 205. Rothenbaum's effort was good enough to secure a spot in the finals.

"I think other bowlers were

hearing about the high level of competition in these events," Stinson said. "And I believe they wanted a chance to dethrone Behney."

In the competitions' final qualifying round on Aug. 22, Raudy captured the top seed with 1,033 points.

The King of Kings semi-finals featured the competition's top five bowlers after a four-game match play elimination. At the end of the day's play, Raudy defeated Troy Ham to advance to the finals.

The finals pitted Raudy against top-seeded Behney in a hard-fought match. An unfortunate pocket 7-10 split broke Behney's rhythm leaving the door open for Raudy to come through with a 248 to win the championship.

With the success of the King of the Hill competition and other activities, the Bowling Center staff promises the best is yet to come for Travis bowlers.

"We are all looking forward to possible monthly Match Play Sweepers," Stinson said. "And due to popular demand, we have plans for a summer 2002 series beginning in May."

For more information about upcoming leagues and other activities at the Bowling Center, call 437-4737.

60th Services Squadron

Travis Bowling Center's summer programs get a perfect score as participation for the three-month period has set a new standard.

"Travis Bowl's summer was indeed a huge success with our new leagues and open-play events," Bowling Center Operations Coordinator Helen Stinson said.

"For example, this summer's short Bumper Buddies League for ages 3 to 5 has led to an increase in sign-ups for our winter youth program," Stinson said. "And now we will have triple the amount of kids bowling in the Saturday morning leagues."

Even though the fall leagues began earlier this month, it's not too late to get in on the action. There are still openings in the evening leagues.

Also the center will bring back the popular No-tap Senior Fun Day and Daytime Galaxy Glo'n'Bowl in late September or early October.

New short session leagues scheduled to begin at the Bowling Center from the end of September through January 2001 are:

» JR/AD Marine World

Start date to be announced. Paid bowlers will receive a 2002 season pass to Marine World.

» NFL League

Starts October. All participants will receive a bowling ball with the logo of their favorite team.

» Super Bowl in Reno

Starts late September or early October. Participants will travel to Reno for three days and two nights, join the Super Bowl party and watch the game on the large screen TV.

» NASCAR League

Starts January 2001. Bowlers receive a "Vis-a-Ball" with the image of their favorite car and driver.

» Have-a-Ball Youth League

Starts October. Youth bowlers will receive a "Vis-a-Ball" bowling ball featuring their favorite Disney or Warner Brothers cartoon character.

For more information about leagues or other events, call the Bowling Center at 437-4737.

SPORTS SHORTS

Power outage at Fitness Center

As part of the ongoing facility expansion, a power outage is scheduled Tuesday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Fitness Center. For more information on affected activities, call 424-2008.

New class at Exercise Center

The Exercise Center has added a new class to its line-up of programs for the month of October. Melanie Schmidt will be teaching free capoeira classes every Tuesday and Thursday until the end of October. The classes will be held in the martial arts room of the Exercise Center from 6 to 7 p.m.

Capoeira is a Brazilian sport that blends elements of dance, acrobatics, martial arts, singing and playing instruments.

For more information, call Schmidt at 437-1374 or the Exercise Center at 424-5680.

Youth football and cheerleading

The Youth Center is accepting applications for its football and cheerleading programs. Age divisions for football are 6 to 7, 8 to 9, 10 to 12 and 13 to 15. Age divisions for the cheerleading are 6 to 7, 8 to 9 and 10 to 12. Cost for both programs per child is \$40 through Oct. 5. An additional \$5 late fee will be assessed after that. For more information, call 424-5392.

Air Force marksman eyes Olympic berth

By Bill Hancock

Air Force Institute of Technology Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio — An Air Force Institute of Technology faculty member here has his sights set on Olympic competition following his recent selection to the Air Force International Pistol Team.

Maj. Stephen Swartz joins his Air Force teammates at the U.S. National Olympic Team fall selection match, which runs through Sept. 30 at Fort Benning, Ga.

The Air Force team selection and the opportunity to try out for the Olympic team are two more steps in a series of accomplishments that have marked Swartz' career since being recruited into the Air Force Shooting Sports Program in the spring of 1998.

"I was just your typical, casual weekend 'plinker' when I stumbled across the USAF National Pistol Team Web site," said Swartz, who teaches in the Graduate School of Engineering and Management. "Up to that point, I never even knew the Air Force had shooting teams."

Starting as a developmental member of the Air Force national team, he advanced to primary status. Shooting the national course of fire

involves 270 shots at 50 yards and 25 yards, with various time limits, using .22 and .45 caliber pistols, Swartz said.

He is now ranked nationally as a high master who consistently scores more than 97 percent of the points available in all events. In addition, as a member of the Air Force team, he also competes with the Beretta M-9 service pistol. At the last national championship, Swartz was ranked 42nd in the nation with the M-9, and was recently awarded the United States Air Force Distinguished Pistol Badge. Fewer than 400 of the badges have been awarded since the inception of the Air Force in 1947 and only seven active-duty people are currently authorized to wear it.

Selection for the international team now presents new challenges and a different focus. People on the Air Force team compete around the world in the Olympic shooting events.

"It's a great honor to be selected, and I'm very excited to be going to the fall selection match," Swartz said, "but the intensity level will definitely kick up a notch. You have to bring your 'A' game for every match and every shot. It's really a game of

millimeters now."

The Olympic course of fire involves highly specialized, single-shot .22 pistols with targets at 50 meters. At that distance, the bull's-eye looks very small at just 2 inches across. To be competitive, the marksman must put at least half of all his shots into that 2-inch circle and none outside of a 4-inch circle, Swartz said. A similar course of fire exists using single-shot air pistols at 10 meters with smaller targets.

His hopes are for a berth on the team that represents the United States, Swartz said.

"If possible, I'd like to earn a spot in the World Class Athlete Program and then membership on the U.S. Olympic team," he said. "That's the surest way to get to Athens (Greece) in 2004."

Under the World Class Athlete Program, the Air Force gives people with international ranking the opportunity to train full time in their sport. People are then able to try out for a spot on the U.S. Olympic team.

For more information about the Air Force Sports Program and the World Class Athlete Program, check out the Web site at www.afsv.af.mil.

Travis band proves Air Force is *Still* a great way of life

By Michael T. Moseley
Daily Republic liaison

What could bring jazz fusion legends like Tom Coster and Frank Gambale to Fairfield to do a music clinic, free to anyone who had a desire to attend? An invitation from the Air Force Band of the Golden West.

"Imagine this: you can join the Air Force and make a living playing music," Coster told the crowd of participants. "I don't think you have to be a rocket scientist to see the beauty of that."

Coster, who played in the Air Force band for four years in the early to mid-1960s, went on to have a lucrative career writing music and playing with Carlos Santana among other music greats.

The whole idea of joining the Air Force to play music was a totally foreign concept to Gambale, until he was invited to teach the clinic.

"I had no idea such a thing was possible," Gambale told the group. "I'm going to go back to my school and tell the graduating students that this is a very serious option for their music careers."

Gambale was referring to seniors at the L.A. Music Academy, where he is head of the guitar department. Besides being one of the foremost guitar players and instructors in the world, Gambale also designs guitars for Ibanez.

"I know a lot of people that spend a lot of time trying to make enough money just to survive by playing music," Gambale said. "It's hard to get people to listen to you ... people who can make a difference in your career. But, here [in the Air Force], you get to play all over the world and be heard by who knows who. This is a brilliant deal."

SSgt. Matt Baloun, one of the band's coordinators for the clinic, smiled at Coster and Gambale's endorsement of an Air Force career. It was exactly the kind of response Baloun was looking for.

"We want you to know that the Air Force is not some 'mystery machine' that you can't get to know," Baloun told the attendees. "We're music lovers just like you."

"I want you all to understand something," said band manager CMSgt. Tom Kistler. "Our wartime mission is to play music."

"A lot of people simply don't know what the Air Force has to offer," Coster noted in conclusion.

That statement is often true even within the Air Force ranks. When she find out about the band, former aerial porter SSgt.

Cassandra Davis figured out what she needed to do to change career fields.

"I was lucky. The leader of our church choir had been in the Air Force band before, so he helped me prepare," Davis said.

Davis had to pass an audition for a part in the band before Permanent Change of Assignment paperwork was filled out to complete her cross training. Now, she sings with the Travis band and has just been accepted into the band at Peterson AFB, Colo., one of the Air Force's two premier bands.

Some band members, like keyboardist SrA Mike Taylor, enlisted directly into the band from basic training.

"I agree one hundred percent with everything Tom [Coster] said," Taylor commented. "I got my degree in music from San Diego State and went straight into the Air Force. Having people like Tom and Frank come

here has really been inspiring to me. I want to take some of their approach and enthusiasm to make my own music better."

That is the kind of give-and-take attitude that band marketing director MSgt. Jerry Debello envisioned when he came up with the idea of how to reach musicians to invite to the clinic.

Debello was able to purchase a list of musicians who live in the surrounding area codes from Keyboard and Guitar Magazine. Sending out

11,000 invitations, Debello received 140 positive responses and 90 motivated attendees at the clinic.

Was the ratio of attendees to invitees discouraging for the band? Not at all, Debello said. "The cost of reaching that many people [with traditional Air Force advertising] far outweighs the cost of this event."

When asked why the Air Force would foot the bill to bring these two high-profile musicians to Fairfield and not charge anything for the clinic, Baloun told the participants: "We're here to reach the community."

Those words brought a rousing cry of "Thank you, Air Force," from the entire audience assembled, followed by a round of applause. The most startling reaction to Baloun's words, however, was this question: "What can we do for the Air force?"

With a smile Baloun simply said, "Tell your friends that they can enjoy a great career in the Air Force."

The Travis band currently has openings for keyboard and guitar players. Anyone interested in auditioning for the band, should call 424-3962.

Photo by Kristina Cilla / Visual Information



Internationally renowned musicians Tom Coster (in black at keyboard) and Frank Gambale (with white guitar) jam with Travis' jazz band. The two notables were invited by the band to give a music clinic in Fairfield. The clinic was free for all participants.



(Left). Australian-born guitar player Frank Gambale enjoys showing a few of the guitar licks he's learned over his illustrious career. (Right). former Santana keyboardist Tom Coster demonstrates some jazz fusion improvisation for clinic participants, including Travis band keyboard player SrA Mike Taylor (in uniform).



Photos by Nan Wylie / Visual Information



(Left). Coster, left, and Gambale answer questions after teaching two hour clinics on music composition and performance. "I would come back and do this any time," Coster said. (Above). Coster discusses keyboard techniques in his portion of the clinic.

NEWS NOTES

Commissioning programs

Are you interested in an opportunity to attend the Air Force Academy? Have you considered Air Force ROTC as a means for earning a college degree and an Air Force commission? Now is the time to start the application process to enter the Air Force Academy or Prep School. The next deadline for the Academy is Jan. 31, 2002. If interested in AFROTC, the next deadline is March 15, 2002, for Fall 2002 school entry. Representatives from the Air Force Academy and AFROTC will be on hand to answer questions Oct. 12 and Nov. 9 at 10 a.m. at the Education Center, Bldg. 249. This is a great opportunity to find out more about these unique commissioning opportunities. Call 424-1727 for more information.

Counseling appointments

Education Center counseling is now conducted on an appointment only basis. Airmen must schedule an appointment by calling 424-3444. Appointments are available Monday through Thursday with limited walk-ins available on Fridays.

Finance closure

Due to the year end close out and a squadron function, Finance will open at 10 a.m. today.

If there is an emergency, personnel can page Maj. Rohini Winters at 436-9354.

Drivers license

Are you one of the many AF personnel who believe your state driver's license is automatically valid beyond its expiration date as long as you hold an active-duty identification card DD Form 2? Did you know that not all state requirements are the same, and that, in fact, some states require you to renew your license every few years? Did you know that if you are stopped while driving at Travis, security forces could run a check of your state requirements at the time of a stop? Did you know if law enforcement determines you have an expired license requiring renewal, your driving privileges on base are automatically revoked for one year?

People assume they do not have to renew a driver's license until they are back in the state of issuance or they separate from active duty. In reality, it depends on the laws of the state from which you hold your license. Visit this website listing the requirements of all 50 states: http://www.uscg.mil/d9/D9legal/Driver's_License.html.

Child-care openings

Several slots are available for full-day child care as part of the preschool-age program at the child development centers on base. The program has nearly 20 slots for 3- and 4-year-old children. For more information, call Shenethia Carter at 424-2729.

Savings right around corner as TRICARE for Life gins up

60th Medical Group

Three thousand dollars a year — that's how much money the average Medicare-eligible military retiree and spouse can expect to save on their medical insurance premiums once TRICARE for Life is implemented Monday. Factor in the average annual cost savings of \$1,400 per couple (for prescription medicines) and the expected health care coverage savings and you see that the new medical coverage provided in the FY2001 National Defense Authorization Act will mean real money to approximately 1.5 million Medicare-eligible military retirees, their family members and survivors and certain spouses.

Primary provisions

TFL will act as the supplemental insurance to Medicare starting Monday. This means TFL will take the place of Medicare supplemental insurance policies by paying the Medicare deductibles and copayments. Couple this with the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy program, which now extends all TRICARE pharmacy benefits to Medicare-eligible beneficiaries, and you can easily see that this enhancement of health care benefits to our elderly beneficiaries is a truly monumental achievement and one that retired patriots and their families richly deserve.

Consider the following scenarios:

► Services covered by both Medicare and TRICARE — Medicare will be the

primary payor, then TFL will pay for Medicare deductibles and copayments. This is expected to be the vast majority of cases.

► Services covered by Medicare, but not TRICARE — The beneficiary would be liable for the Medicare deductible and copayments.

► Services covered by TRICARE, but not Medicare — The beneficiary would be liable for the TRICARE Standard deductible and copayments. However, the new annual catastrophic cap limits for maximum out-of-pocket expense for TRICARE allowable expenses in any year is \$3,000, which is reduced from \$7,500 under the new legislation.

► Services not covered by either Medicare or TRICARE — The beneficiary would be responsible for the total costs such as: hearing aids, eyeglasses, routine dental care and long-term custodial care.

Requirements to be eligible

A beneficiary must be entitled for Medicare A and enrolled in Medicare Part B. This means any Medicare-eligible retirees, including Reserve and Guard retirees, who are drawing retired pay (or veterans disability compensation in lieu of retired pay) are eligible — regardless of age.

If you were 65 or older before April 1, 2001, you qualify for the program. If your birthday was on or after April 1, you must be enrolled in Medicare Part B. (**Important Note:** Parents or par-

ents-in-law who are dependent upon a qualifying retiree for more than 50 percent of their support are eligible for this program, but not for other TFL benefits.)

What can you do to make sure that you qualify for TFL Monday?

► Make sure you have Medicare Part B. If you are 65 or older, you can enroll during the general enrollment period, which is Jan. 1 to Mar. 31 of every year; however, you will not be eligible for TFL benefits until July 1. Medicare Part B premiums increase 10 percent for each year you were eligible for Part B but did not take it, unless you or your spouse are working past 65 and have an employer health plan. To enroll or for more information, call your local Social Security Office or (800) 772-1213.

► Make sure military records are current. Go to the nearest military personnel office or call the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System support office at (800) 334-4162 from 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. pacific time, Monday through Friday. Make address changes by e-mail: addrinfo@osd.pentagon.mil; fax: (831) 655-8317; mail: DEERS Support Office, Attn: COA, 400 Gigling Rd., Seaside, CA 93955-6771; or online: www.tricare.osd.mil/deers/.

► Make sure identification card has not expired. Go to the nearest military installation or facility or call (877) 363-6337.

► Contact the local Social Security office if you have any questions about your Medicare benefits or call (800) 633-4227.

Medical fitness

**TRICARE
for Life
means
substantial
health-care
savings**

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen Rhem
American Forces Press Service

"TRICARE for Life is green — all signs are go" for the program to begin as scheduled Oct. 1, said Col. Frank Cumberland.

"It's going to happen. It's funded. Let's press on," said Cumberland, who is the director of communications and customer service at the TRICARE Management Agency here.

The TRICARE for Life program extends TRICARE benefits to military retirees who are older than 65 and Medicare-eligible. The fiscal 2001 National Defense Authorization Act directed the Defense Department to extend the medical coverage to this previously ineligible population.

For eligible retirees and their spouses who are older than 65 and enrolled in Medicare Part B, TRI-

CARE will become a second payer to Medicare starting Oct. 1. This will end retirees need to pay many out-of-pocket expenses, and most will probably decide they no longer need to buy "Medigap" supplemental insurance, TRICARE officials said.

The only requirements for beneficiaries are that they check their enrollment information in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting

System to ensure its accuracy and that they be enrolled in Medicare Part B.

All but about 70,000 of the 1.5 million retirees eligible for TRICARE for Life are enrolled in Medicare Part B, said Steve Lillie, TRICARE's director of over-65 benefits. Those 70,000 can take care of business during Medicare's next general enrollment period of January through March 2002, he said.



AMC announces ATWIND winners

By Sam Parker
AMC Services Directorate

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AMCNS) - Staff Sgt. Hien Parker at McConnell AFB, Kan., and Capt. Philip Bascom, Fairchild AFB, Wash., are the top grand prize winners in the 2001 Mobility Command Around The World In Ninety Days summer promotion.

As grand prize winners, they had their choice of one of three vehicles from Ford Motor Company.

Parker had a tough choice choosing between a Focus, an Escape or Ranger. She selected the Ford Escape. She said, "We were back and forth. One day it was the Focus, then the Escape and then the Ranger. My husband and I had a hard time trying to decide, but we were smiling all the while."

Smiling also describes AMC's other new car winner. Bascom, who also chose an Escape, said he is having a hard time getting the smile off his face. "ATWIND's theme of 'Get Into It' has a special meaning for us now, because we really can't wait to get into it!"

Both Parker and Bascom got a call last week to report to their wing commander's office. The phone rang shortly after their arrival and the commanders

said, "It's for you."

On the other end of the line was Lt. Gen. Ronald C. Marcotte, AMC vice commander. Marcotte said, "Have I got news for you!" and informed each of their grand prize win.

Marcotte said he couldn't help but smile himself. "It is great to be able to make calls like that. The ATWIND program has done a lot to increase awareness and participation of command programs, services and activities. My being able to make calls like these is simply the icing on the cake," the general said.

ATWIND is an interactive game in which players earn game pieces for participating in various programs and activities. Participation earns game pieces good for mileage in a quest to circle the globe. Each game piece is worth 1,100. The more players play, the farther they travel, for better chances to win.

This year's program saw ATWIND expand to include Air Force Space Command. Each major command had their own version of the game and offered their own prizes.

AMC had quite a few prize winners, a total of 6,211 during the regular program, and an additional 30

grand prize winners.

In fact, ATWIND participation set a new record this year. AMC had 59,962 registered players, an increase of 12,480 over last year. With the addition of AFSPC, there were a total of 78,750 registered players who played a total of 975,585 game pieces. In addition to the grand prize winners, 11,299 ATWINNER prizes were awarded from corporate sponsors including, Sprint, Sprint PCS, USAA, Earthlink, US Airways, Tyson and Coca Cola.

According to AMC Services officials, the base-to-base competition was "hot and heavy." As an additional program incentive, AMC provided \$100,000 for quality-of-life programs for bases achieving their unique ATWIND mission. Each AMC base was challenged to increase their overall participation over last year by 5 percent. Each base achieving their goal received \$5,000. The three bases that exceeded their goal by the largest margin each received an additional \$25,000, \$10,000 and \$5,000 respectively. The top three finalists were: first; McGuire AFB, N.J.; second, Charleston AFB, S.C.; and third, Dover AFB, Del.

Big winners with ATWIND

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. (AMCNS) - Here are the Air Mobility Command Grand Prize Winners for the 2001 Around The World In Ninety Days summer promotion:

» **Andrews AFB, Md.**: SrA Beba Rodriguea, vacation for two, \$2,000; Airman Aisha Ward, vacation for four, \$3,000 and George Jackson, \$750

» **Charleston AFB, S.C.**: A1C Justin King and Janet Jordan, 36" color TV

» **Dover AFB, Del.**: Capt. Kingston Lampley, \$500; MSgt. Robert Pflaumer,

Compaq computer system

» **Fairchild AFB, Wash.**: Capt. Philip Bascom, Ford Escape; Kathleen Bruso and TSgt. Vada Martinez, Compaq computer system and SSgt. Rita Hunter-Haug, vacation for two, \$1,000.

» **Grand Forks AFB, N.D.**: A1C Edwardo Morales, \$1,000

» **MacDill AFB, Fla.**: Diane Hernandez, vacation for two, \$500; SSgt. Shari Bauder, Compaq computer system; Angela Brown, 36" color TV and Roy Taylor, \$1,000

» **March Air Reserve Base, Calif.**: MSgt. Barbara Morris, \$500

» **McChord AFB, Wash.**: SrA

Robert Rawlings, \$1,000

» **McConnell AFB, Kan.**: SSgt.

Hein Parker, Ford Escape

» **McGuire AFB, N.J.**: TSgt. Mark Chase, \$1,000

» **Pope AFB, N.C.**: SSgt. Sheila Bartley, \$750; John Murray, \$500; SSgt. Horace Dozier, mini music system and Capt. Tobert Garrison, vacation for two, \$1,500

» **Robins AFB, Ga.**: TSgt. Frankline Varghes, \$500

» **Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich.**: MSgt. Terry Bond, \$500

» **Scott AFB, Ill.**: 1st Lt. Lydia Radford and Capt. Grant Izzi, \$500

» **Travis AFB, Calif.**: Joshua

Armistead, \$1,000

» **En Route**: Anthony Twing, \$500

» This year's final results for the ATWIND base competition in order of finish were: McGuire, (\$25,000), Charleston, (\$10,000), Dover, (\$5,000), Grand Forks, Pope, McChord, Fairchild, McConnell, Scott, Andrews, MacDill and Travis.

Traffic at the NORTH Gate

Traffic outside of the North Gate continues to be a concern not only for wing leadership, but also for Solano County officials.

By TSgt. Scott King
60th AMW Public Affairs

Hazardous road conditions — combined with careless driving — have placed two intersections just outside Travis'



TSgt. Scott King / 60th AMW Public Affairs

North Gate on the top of the Solano County Transportation Department's list of dangerous intersections.

According to base safety officials, the intersections of North Gate and Canon roads and

Canon and Vanden roads are hot beds for unsafe driving.

Just outside the North Gate, the posted speed limit is 50 mph, the lanes are narrow and there's no passing permitted, yet daily, people ignore the

dangerous road conditions and drive unsafely, according to Travis safety officials.

"The roads outside the Vacaville gate are extremely narrow, have less shoulder room and provide absolutely no room for error," said Noel Fagan, chief of the 60th Air Mobility Wing ground safety office.

"Drivers really need to heed the warnings, pay attention to their speeds and keep their eyes on the road."

Fagan added that because there are no shoulders, drivers frequently let their tires leave the road and end up in the ditches.

Not only are the roads dangerous, the nearby intersections are also a real cause for concern, according to Fagan.

According to Solano County

Transportation Department figures, so far this year, at the intersection of Vanden and Canon roads, there have been one fatal accident, two injury accidents and seven accidents involving property damage. At the intersection of North Gate and Canon roads there have been five accidents involving property damage.

More than a few Travis folks who routinely drive through these areas, realize the danger.

"I have passed by many accidents [in this area]," said MSgt. Shirley Harmon, superintendent of wing executive services. "I really have to practice defense driving when I use these roads and intersections."

Harmon said she tries to avoid these areas because of the driving situations she has witnessed, such as excessive speeds and unsafe passing.



Respect Your Flag

"The lines of red are lines of blood, nobly and unselfishly shed by men who loved the liberty of their fellow men more than they loved their own lives and fortunes. God forbid that we should have to use the blood of America to freshen the color of the flag. But if it should ever be necessary, that flag will be colored once more, and in being colored will be glorified and purified."

President Woodrow Wilson
Flag Day, 1915

It is the universal custom to display flags only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and stationary flagstaffs in the open. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness. The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously. The flag should be not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all-weather flag is used. All base residents are reminded to follow the customs and courtesies associated with the American flag.

Classified Ads work. Call the Daily Republic at 425-4646.



Take a look at the new Air Force Web site, Responding to Tragedy, at <http://www.af.mil/news/tragedy>. It has the latest Air Force-related news on last Tuesday's tragedy, as well as links to FAQs for AF people assigned to the Pentagon, hero stories, letters Air Force News is getting, photos and base news. Air Force News plans to keep the site up to date with the latest information.

Robertson asks for commitment, strength, dedication

View Point

Gen. Charles T. "Tony" Robertson
Commander, Air Mobility Command



Robertson

Needless to say, Sept. 11 is a day that will live in the America psyche forever. If the headlines and news reports of the past two weeks are any indication, there is no doubt that American today are prouder of their flag, prouder of what they stand for around the globe, are stronger and more resilient, and are closer together as a nation than at any time in recent memory. And it is also my firm belief that you, the men and women of Air Mobility Command, over the past two weeks have proven yourselves once again to be one of the most critical parts of that strength and that resilience.

From the very first moments of the tragedy on Sept. 11, AMC's men and women responded as you always have, mobilizing rapidly to bring comfort and relief to the victims and to their families, quickly moving search and recovery teams to the New York and Washington D.C. areas, providing direct assistance to on-scene medical and security teams, supporting combat air patrols providing vigilance against other attacks, and giving generously of your time, your money and your blood to help those who have lost so much. As it has been so many times before, your efforts have been recognized, are deeply appreciated and will be long remembered.

But even as we continue our humanitarian efforts, we move forward resolutely to answer the president's call. As President Bush has suggested, the campaign ahead of us is likely to be more of a marathon than a sprint. It will no doubt, require a continued significant commitment of strength and dedication to our mission...the same kinds of values that have become our hallmark around the world every day. It will also, undoubtedly, require the support and understanding of our

families as we face longer hours and separation from our loved ones.

In this regard, I'm confident that their knowledge of the stakes involved, their knowledge of how much our country depends on us, and their confidence that we're going to do everything in our power to support them through this difficult period, will bring the entire AMC family even closer together than we have become over the past several years.

That said, more than ever before, force protection, keeping our people and our families safe — must be on all our minds. From significantly longer days for our security forces, to longer lines to get into our facilities, there is no doubt, for the immediate future, that our lives are going to be a bit less convenient.

That said, I don't think anyone who's logically thought through the alternative would suggest that the payoff isn't worth it. Keep your antennas up...know how to respond when you detect anything suspicious or out of the ordinary, and hopefully, this too, will pass.

It is impossible for me to fully express how proud I am of each and every one of you and the great work you are doing for our country. Whether you are an airman or NCO, officer or civilian — member of our Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve or active-duty force — our national leadership is singing your praises. Simply put, you are making a difference, and you are one of the big reasons America will prevail.

YoRR comes to an end

By SSgt. Cortchie Welch
Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. - Air Mobility Command's Year of Retention and Recruiting ends today, but officials expect the command to continue its focus on retaining and attracting America's finest well beyond fiscal year 2001.

"This will be an on-going battle," said Lt. Col. Joshua Jose, chief of AMC's Retention and Recruiting Division. "We can't measure our effectiveness in the near term because of the process one takes to make an informed career decision. At the same time, many efforts are still just getting rolling to improve our quality of life, both at home and in the work place.

"It [YoRR] technically will continue for a long time to come. We need to keep up the momentum that everyone has generated throughout the year. There were and still are great ideas on how to improve the way we work and live. We have done a great job in making sure more people are aware of possible

improvements in the way the mission is accomplished — that is a big step toward solving retention."

AMC declared fiscal 2001 as YoRR to provide commanders and supervisors with information they need to counsel their airmen about the benefits of making the Air Force a career and to help turn the tide in recruiting numbers.

"I want commanders and supervisors to really take to heart that we all know that their task is not easy," Jose said. "The dynamics of staying in the Air Force are different for everyone and that in order to meet readiness goals by keeping their best and brightest, they need to be proactive in knowing all the latest developments whether they are improvements in pay to better educational benefits. That is why they need to put together their own retention team within their units.

"Everyone should back each other up on responsibilities to be experts on what the latest benefits are. One person can't do it alone. They need to keep a strong unit retention team to combat those few who are dis-

gruntled and want everyone else to feel their pain."

Jose said everyone was emotionally fired-up about retention and recruiting during the campaign.

"Everyone had an idea how best to improve retention and recruiting, and many times they differed dramatically," he said. "I would attribute that to the fact that people enjoy being a part of the world's greatest military and the notion of separating for them is such gut-wrenching decision. In fact, it takes at least a year if not more, for the average person to decide to separate from the Air Force.

"The same thing goes for recruiting. Our folks want so much to be able to tell their stories on what worked for them and what fields potential recruits should go into."

According to Jose, every AMC base did its part in making YoRR a success.

"Each base had their own way of doing things and you could tell that success stories on a particular base could have only happened there due to uniqueness of mission, personnel and facilities," he said. "It was great to see everyone get involved."

Here's a recap of some of YoRR's initiatives:

High Year Tenure increase for technical sergeants: Effective July 1, the HYT for technical sergeants increased from 20 years to 22 years.

Thrift Savings Plan: Beginning Oct. 9, this program allows members to save up to seven percent of monthly base pay and all or part of special duty or incentive pay, up to a maximum of \$10,700 per year. Members must contribute part of base pay before contributing special duty or incentive pay and all contributions must be made by payroll deduction. Complete information is available at www.tsp.gov.uniserve.

Veterans Administration "Top-Up" Program: This program allows members to use their Montgomery GI Bill to pay the 25 percent tuition cost the tuition assistance program doesn't cover. Students using Top-Up will be charged a proportional amount of their 36-month MGIB benefit. The education office has complete details.

Recruiter Assistance Program: The program allows all eligible active-duty members up to 12 days non-chargeable leave to assist Air Force recruiters in areas where the member has established community ties. The commander's approval is required. More information can be found at <http://www.rs.af.mil/RAP>.

These are just a few of the initiatives produced this past year. Others include the BAH increase, increased promotion opportunities for staff sergeant to master sergeant, and increases in MGIB contributions, just to name a few. As we close out the Year of Recruiting and Retention and head into the Year of the Warrior Spirit, it doesn't mean recruiting and retention are no longer in the forefront. The Air Force needs to recruit and retain quality people to maintain its "Warrior Spirit."

GOT AN INTERESTING STORY IDEA?
Call 424-2011.



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DoD authorizes stop-loss

Air Force Print News

The U.S. secretary of defense has authorized the use of stop-loss measures in order to support President Bush's campaign against terrorism, Air Force officials at the Pentagon said Sept. 20.

The decision, which gives service departments the authority to retain members beyond established dates of separation or retirement, was made by Donald H. Rumsfeld on Sept. 19, said Lt. Col. Jan Middleton, chief of promotion, evaluation and separation policy for the Air Force.

"The purpose of this action is to meet mission requirements in support of Operation Noble Eagle and any follow-on operations regarding the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the nation," she said.

Those attacks, in which hijackers flew airliners into New York's World Trade Centers, in addition to the Pentagon, killed thousands of Americans and sent shockwaves throughout the world. In a Sept. 20 address to Congress, President Bush responded to the attacks by essentially declaring war on the world's network of terrorism.

As a result, as many as 50,000 reservists — including people in each branch of service — have been called to active duty in recent days. Title 10 of U.S. Code permits the president to enact stop-loss measures when

such a call-up takes place, Middleton said.

"Title 10 permits the president to suspend any provision of law relating to promotions, retirements and separations during any period when members of any reserve component are on active duty under involuntary mobilization authorities," she said.

Middleton said that the Air Force will employ a "total force approach" to capitalize on the unique composition of each force element, including active-duty members, Guard and Reserve.

Capt. Amy Anderson, chief of retirement and separation policy for the Air Force, said the key will be to ensure the service retains the critical skills needed for mission requirements. For at least the short-term future, the policy — effective immediately — will affect all bluesuiters.

"The initial stop-loss period for all Air Force specialties will be for at least 30 days," she said. "All retirement, separation or transfer actions will be suspended until termination of stop-loss, unless an exemption is applicable or waiver is granted. This (Air Force Specialty Code) list will be revised and made available to the public as requirements are validated."

A few exceptions will apply, Anderson said.

"This suspension does not apply to the mandatory



Art by MSgt. Jim Greeley / Air Force News

The U.S. secretary of defense has authorized the use of stop-loss measures in order to support President Bush's campaign against terrorism.

separation or retirement of personnel because of disabilities, or hardships," she said. "But, officers being separated due to nonselection to captain, major or lieutenant colonel will not be exempted."

Anderson said that people who had separated or retired as of Sept. 19 and who made arrangements to ship household goods on or before Oct. 1, are exempt from the stop-loss act. In addition, those people serving an overseas unaccompanied assignment where the tour length is 15 months or less, and who will retire or separate upon tour completion, are also exempt.

Personnel officials said military personnel flights around the Air Force have additional information regarding stop-loss implementation.

Classified ads work. Call 425-4646.

HOMETOWN NEWS RELEASES

Fill out the Department of Defense Form 2266 and bring it in to the Public Affairs Office in Bldg. 51, Room 232.

Fire Prevention week kicks off with a "Fire Muster"

By SSgt. Jim Verchio
60th AMW Public Affairs

The history of Fire Prevention week has its roots in the Great Chicago Fire, which occurred Oct. 8, 1974. The fire but lasted 17 hours, however, the most damage to the city occurred the following day. As a result, Oct. 9, 1971, is the date most often connected with the tragic blaze.

In the end, the Great Chicago Fire killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17, 400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. On the 40th anniversary of this fire, the former Fire Marshals Association of North America sponsored the first National Fire Prevention Day, advocating an annual observation as a way to keep the public informed about the importance of fire prevention. This year's theme, "Cover the Bases and Strike Out Fire" teaches people how to inspect their home for fire hazards so that they can prevent three of the leading cause of home fires – cooking, heating and electrical. Fire Prevention Week also to encourages the public to develop and practice a home fire escape plan, which includes testing and maintenance of smoke alarms.



In recognition of Fire Prevention Week, Travis' firefighters are conducting a "Fire Muster" Oct. 12. The event will take place in the Family Support Center parking lot starting at 11 a.m.

The firefighters are hoping for maximum participation for the event.

"We really want to get the word out early about this event so people will have time to form a maximum of 16 teams and get ready for the competitions," said SSgt. Christopher Pitts, one of the event's organizers.

The events scheduled for the muster include: a bucket brigade; a ski race; a bunker drill and a water ball competition.

Not only is the event being organized to raise fire-prevention awareness but also to raise money for their fallen brethren.

Pitts said there will be food and drinks available to participants and spectators, and all proceeds will go the families of the New York firefighters.

The Fire Muster is just one event the firefighters are holding throughout the week. For a list of events, look at the Fire Prevention Week schedule below.

For more information on the Fire Muster and to find out how to sign up a team, contact Pitts or SSgt. Robert Bondurant at 424-3886.

Events for Fire Prevention Week

Oct. 9

- » 9 a.m. Fire prevention skits for Travis Elementary School
Features Sparky the Fire Dog and Dinger the Rivercat's Mascot
- » 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Display at the Base Exchange
- » 11 a.m. Fire Prevention Skits for Center Elementary School
Features Sparky the Fire Dog and Dinger the Rivercat's Mascot

Oct. 10

- » 7 to 10 a.m. Seagraves fire truck at the Main Gate
- » 10 a.m. Fire prevention skits for Scandia Elementary School
Features Sparky the Fire Dog
- » 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Display at the Base Exchange

Oct. 11

- » 7 to 10 a.m. Seagraves fire truck at the Main Gate
- » 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Display at the Base Exchange

Oct. 12

- » 8 to 11 a.m. Sparky the Fire Dog visits all Child Development Centers
- » Noon to 3 p.m. First Travis Air Force Base Fire Muster
 - » Four team events
 - » Burger burn

Oct. 13

- » 10 to 11 a.m. Fire prevention parade through base housing
- » 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fire prevention open house at Fire Station #2, Bldg. 175
- » Free raffle with prizes every hour
- » Chili cook-off
- » Kids games and smoky house trainer
- » Poster contest winners
- » Free cake, punch and fire prevention materials
- » Auto extrication demonstration
- » E.O.D. robot demonstration

DOD blood donor deferment criteria changes postponed

By SSgt. Mark Diamond
60th AMW Public Affairs

On Sept. 7, Dr. J. Jarrett Clinton, acting assistant secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, announced new blood donor criteria for the Department of Defense.

The new criteria was adopted as a result of guidance from the Food and Drug Administration on restricting blood donors who may have been exposed to the agent that causes "variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease," the human form of "mad cow" disease.

The implementation date for the new blood donor criteria was set to begin Sept. 14.

On Sept. 11, all that changed.

Following the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon in Washington, Clinton changed the implementation date of the new blood donor criteria from Sept. 14 to Oct. 29.

According to Maj. Sarah Futterman, officer in charge of the Travis Blood Donor Center, the implementation date of the new blood donor criteria was postponed because government officials expected a substantial need for blood donations following the attacks.

Futterman said the bottom line is officials still don't know the full impact the attacks will have on U.S. blood supplies. Therefore, potential blood donors are being asked not to defer themselves from donating blood based on their own understanding of blood donor criteria.

"Don't count yourself out," explained the major. "People who want to donate blood should visit the blood donor center and let our folks determine your eligibility."

Although the blood donor criteria concerning vCJD (the human form of "mad cow" disease) will not go into effect until Oct. 29, Futterman said that could again change depending on changes in the nation's blood supply.

In a Defense Link news article that was published in the Sept. 14 Tailwind, Defense health officials said the risk of vCJD transmission from human blood/blood products is theoretical and no cases of the disease have been transmitted through blood donations, and no scientific study has established such a link.

In that news article, Clinton also said the precautionary restriction would disqualify an estimated 18 percent of active-duty personnel, not all of who are donors.

Military Personnel and Immediate Family

To reach members of your family in times of emergency need, call the American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Service Center toll-free at (877) 272-7337.



American Red Cross

The Travis Public Affairs office has implemented a Straight Talk Line to keep the local populace informed on current events and Travis' security posture. For up-to-date general information, call (707) 424-5317.

Team Travis members win big

By 1st Lt. Kim Garbett
60th AMW Public Affairs

They're the "creme de la creme," and they're here at Travis. In times of national crisis like this, it's comforting to know Travis is home to some of the finest flying instructors Air Mobility Command has to offer.

Travis' 60th Operations Group recently garnered almost 40 percent of AMC's flying instructor awards for the year 2000.

Capt. Mike Wood, MSgt. Chris Powell and SSgt. Erik Appeldoorn took home the bacon this past year; each won one of only eight annual awards AMC offers to top performers.

Lt. Col. Doug Tauscher, chief of the 60th OG's standardization and evaluation office, explained the significance of these awards. "These are the elite of the elite," he said. "It's an honor to be selected and nominated from your base — hand-picked — and then go to compete at the major command level to be up against the best AMC has to offer. It's even better, of course, to be announced as the winner."

Capt. Mike Wood, a KC-10 pilot currently assigned to the 60th OG training section, was selected as AMC's flying instructor pilot of the year for 2000. Out of more than 12,000 pilots in the U.S. Air Force today, more than 5,000 belong to AMC, and it was these flight instructors he was up against for this prestigious award.

Some of Wood's accomplishments that singled him out for this recognition include crafting the first-ever Travis supplement to the KC-10 air crew regulation, detailing the scope of the processes, training and documentation requirements for nine essential wing-level training programs. He also wrote the cover story for the December 2000 edition of the USAF Flying Magazine on frequency modulation immunity, highlighting this critical issue, which focused on identifying frequencies Air Force aircraft use to fly approaches into airfields and the problems inherent with the technology. He also built the command's leading Instrument Refresher Course instructor library from ground-up, making 21 hard-to-find regulations easily accessible, an essential resource for the command's aircrews and instructors.

"It's (flight instructor pilot of the year) a pretty prestigious award," said Capt. Phil Tucker, a KC-10 pilot with the 9th Aerial Refueling Squadron. "I'm sure any pilot would love to win it; I know I would!"

■ SEE WINNERS ON PAGE 17

CHAPEL

Services

Catholic

Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m., communion service or Mass, Chapel Center.

Saturday, 4 to 4:45 p.m., confessions, Chapel One.

Saturday Mass, 5 p.m., Chapel One.

Sunday Mass, 9 a.m., Chapel One.

Sunday, 9 a.m., children's liturgy of the Word, Chapel One.

Sunday Mass, 12:30 p.m., Chapel Center.

Protestant
Friday, noon, 30-minute worship service, David Grant Medical Center Chapel.

Sunday, 8 a.m., community, praise & worship service, Chapel Center.

Sunday, 10:30 a.m., community worship service, Chapel Center. Nursery class for kids 3 months to 3 years.

Sunday, 11 a.m., community Gospel service, Chapel One.

Jewish

First Fridays, 7 p.m., Sabbath service, Chapel Center.

Third Saturdays, 10 a.m., Sabbath service, Chapel Center.

Religious Education

Protestant

Sunday, 8 & 10:30 a.m., Children's Church, 4- to 8-year-olds, Chapel Center.

Sunday 9:15 to 10:20 a.m., Sunday School for ages 3 and up, Chapel Center.

Sunday, 11 a.m., Children's Church, 4- to 8-year-olds, Chapel One.

Catholic

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., OCIA, Chapel Center

Wicca

Monday, 6:30 p.m., education classes, RE Wing, Chapel Center.

Youth Groups

Protestant

Monday, 6 to 7 p.m., "Community Teens For Christ," 12- to 18-year-olds, Chapel One annex.

Other Groups

Protestant

Second Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Community Young Adult Group, Chapel One annex.

Second Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Protestant Women of the Chapel, Chapel Center.

Third Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Protestant Men of the Chapel, Chapel One.

Fridays, 10 a.m., Protestant Women of the Chapel Bible study, Chapel One.

First Saturdays, 8 a.m., Protestant Men of the Chapel, Chapel One.

Fourth Saturdays, 6:30 p.m., Community Young Adult Group, Chaplain Sander's home on base.

Inside Out

Sundays, 6:00 p.m., rock and praise-style worship, Chapel One.

For more details on religious groups, call the Chapel Center at 424-3217.

ABOUT TRAVIS

TRAVIS COMMUNITY EVENTS

Tomorrow — ▲ Visit Golden Gate Park, 1,700 acres world-famous for its many attractions. See lush botanical gardens, a children's zoo, museums, a full-size Dutch windmill and a buffalo park. Horseback riding is also available. Rent a rowboat or paddleboat and relax on the park's picturesque lake or have tea and cookies in the authentic Japanese teahouse. The \$12 cost covers transportation only. Call 424-5659.

All October — ▲ The Delta Breeze Club's 12-foot TV will be tuned to the major league baseball playoffs and the World Series. Drawings and door prizes will be offered in the Gold Rush Lounge. The lounge will be open to all ranks during the World Series. Call 437-3711.

▲ Nearly 20 slots are still available for full-day child care at Travis' three Child Development centers. The program is for children ages 3 to 4. For more information, call Shenethia Carter at 424-2729.

▲ All kids who participated in the Mitchell Memorial Library's Summer Reading Program, but who were unable to attend the program's finale pizza party on Sept. 15 can still receive their certificate of completion. Just drop by the library anytime from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays or noon to 6 p.m. Sundays. The first 50 children who submitted their Summer Reading Longsheet will also receive a gift. For more information, call 424-5254.

▲ Information, Tickets and Tours and the Outdoor Adventure Program are looking for



Courtesy photo

Meeting of minds: A Parent Advisory Board meeting is scheduled Wednesday from 4 to 5 p.m. at Child Development Center 2. Parents with children enrolled in Travis' CDCs and family child care and school-age programs are welcome to attend. For more information, call Alan Tornay at 424-5400.

ture Program are looking for volunteer van and bus drivers for day trips. Volunteer now and receive free passes to famous local attractions and events. For more information, call Georgie Ellis at 424-0970.

October 6 — ▲ The NCGA four-person qualifier for 2002 tournament will be at the Cypress Lakes Golf Course. It is a four-person, two best-ball format. Entry fee is \$10 plus green and cart fees. Sign-up deadline is Thursday.

October 6 — ▲ Visit the Winchester Mystery House. In 1884 wealthy widow Sara L. Winchester, heiress to the Winchester repeating rifle fortune, began construction of a strangely fascinating 160-room

Victorian-style mansion. The construction project would last until her death 38 years later. The \$13 cost covers transportation only. Call 424-5659.

October 7 & 13 — ▲ Join ITT on a two special trips to the Santa Cruz Beach boardwalk.

▲ The sky lights up over the boardwalk as the city of Santa Cruz celebrates its birthday Oct. 7. The spectacular fire works show starts at 8 p.m.

▲ Oct 13, come see classic cars during the Hot Rods at the Beach event to benefit the Santa Cruz City Police Officers' Association. Both trips have a \$15 transportation fee. Call 424-5240.

—60th Services Squadron

Travis flea market

The Travis community flea market, sponsored by the Enlisted Wives Club, is scheduled for Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Delta Breeze Club parking lot. Crafts, clothing, free drawings and much more will be offered. Squadron booster clubs and individuals selling household items are welcome. Prices are \$10 for one empty space, \$15 for two empty spaces, \$20 for one space with a table and \$30 for two spaces with two tables. The EWC will be selling Krispy Kreame Donuts for \$6 per dozen. For more information, call Wendy Housel at 437-1473.

FSC EVENTS

Monday

▼ Spouse employment orientation, 9 a.m. to noon for newly arrived spouses. Learn about employment and career development programs at the Family Support Center. Call 424-2486.

▼ Skills and self assessment from 8 a.m. to noon for all job seekers. Explore different career paths based on your personality type, skills, abilities and interests. Call 424-2486.

Wednesday

▼ WIC representatives will be at the FSC from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Call 435-2200.

Thursday

▼ WIC representatives will be at the FSC from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Call 435-2200.

October 11

▼ Resume writing workshop from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the FSC. Call 424-2486.

▼ WIC representatives will be at the FSC from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Call 435-2200.

▼ Budgeting and credit class from 9 to 11 a.m. at the FSC. Call 424-2486.

▼ Employment interviewing Skills I at the FSC from 8 a.m. to noon. Learn successful interviewing techniques, how to answer difficult questions and more. Second session will be 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 18. Call 424-2486.

Weekly

▼ The Airman's Attic will be open for shopping only on Wednesdays and on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. During heightened security, only small item donations and clothing will be accepted Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. You must call Airman's Attic at 424-4346 to schedule a donation time. No large furniture donations at this time. Airman's Attic is located in the FSC, Bldg 660, 351 Travis Ave.

▼ Find information on military installations worldwide by using the Customer Resource Area at the FSC. Access the Standard Installation Topic and Exchange Service information files via Internet. These files are updated continually. To aid in trip planning by automobile, use the Tripmaker program. Call 424-2486 for more information.

HAWC programs

The Health and Wellness Center is currently seeking partnership with the squadrons to maximize its effectiveness. Wellness is an accumulation of good choices leading to optimal health and quality of life, a way of life aimed at reducing risks. Lifestyle choices made can literally determine both quality and length of life.

Health and wellness treatment does not belong solely to the HAWC, however. Wellness components are physical, social, mental and spiritual. Travis Integrated Delivery System (known as TIDES) also places emphasis on the broad value of

strengthening connections — taking responsibility for each other. Collaboration increases the effectiveness of all units and agencies and can create an environment that supports healthy behavior. Since the unit is where members spend the majority of their duty time, the HAWC is looking for people interested in being squadron health promotion liaisons and igniting a community approach to health and base welfare. Squadrons interested in promoting such things as smoking cessation, fitness, stress management and wellness within the unit, should call us 424-HAWC (424-4292).

FTAC

A comfortable beginning

By A1C Alice Moore
60th AMW Public Affairs

Seven months ago I made a decision that changed me for the better. At the time, I was attending college in my hometown and wanted to do something different with my life. As a result, I enlisted in the Air Force.

After graduating basic training in May, I went to technical school and received orders to work in the public affairs office at Travis Air Force Base.

I didn't know what to expect, mainly because I was going to be so far away from home. But I knew I was excited because I knew California would definitely be different.

When I arrived here last month, I was greeted at the airport by my sponsor, who shared some of her experiences so far at the base. I knew I had some good things to look forward to.

One of the things she shared with me was information about the First Term Airman Center program. She also indicated that I would start FTAC the following week.

I had the idea before arriving at Travis that I would go directly to my job, but after hearing a little about FTAC, the program made sense.

The following week came, and I began FTAC. I didn't know what to expect but when I arrived, I met MSgt. Fuentes, SSgt. Sharpe and SrA Chambers, my flight leader.

I noticed they were very professional and made me feel very welcomed. That wasn't something I was used to. Coming out of basic training and tech school was a different level of intensity, I suppose.

I also saw I wasn't the only airman there. I started with about

six other airmen. That also put me at ease.

After a few minuets of introductions. I began what I call my "FTAC experience".

I sat in my chair quietly and waited for my very first briefing. I had the pleasure of listening to some chief master sergeants here at Travis. I was very interested; I knew that these gentlemen had a lot of knowledge about the air Force and what it was about. They were open to all types of questions from the different airmen and gave us valuable information.

The first day ended with several other briefings and I took with me new insights. I started to realize what I could offer the Air Force as well as what the Air Force could offer me.

At the end of the first week of FTAC, I felt good about the program. I thought that the program was a great idea. I saw it as a good way to help an airman such as myself transition to the operational Air Force.

I looked forward to starting my second week. We participated in several more briefings that gave me more information I knew I would need. We also got to do quite a bit of inprocessing. Toward the middle part of the week, we started our first detail day.

The word "detail" had never sounded very appealing to me. But I knew it was part of the program. However, it wasn't so bad. I spent time working at the education center and it gave me a chance to get to know some of the other airmen here.

When this "FTAC experience" is finally over, I know that it is just the beginning of my whole experience in the operational Air Force.

Promotions

Retirements

Awards

Medals

HOMETOWN NEWS RELEASES

When something big happens in your military career, it's worth telling the folks back home. To learn how, call 424-2 011.

PCSing

Training

Reenlistments

Education

Seatbelts are hugs from your car!

WINNERS / From Page 14

MSgt. Chris Powell is one of AMC's 675-plus force of boom operators. He is a KC-10 flight instructor boom operator with the 60th Operations Support Squadron. Last year alone, some of his accomplishments included saving a Red Flag deployment when he identified major errors in load plans for four KC-10s redeploying aircraft. His intervention and replanning ensured a safe and on-time departure. Powell is well-known as an undisputed systems expert. Powell was selected to test KC-10 load management computer programs for AMC Headquarters at Scott AFB, Ill. His knowledge of weight and balance procedures resulted in the program's certification.

The third AMC award won by a Travis Team member was selected for by AMC was the flying instructor loadmaster of the year for 2000. SSgt. Erik Appeldoorn fundamentally

competed with more than 1,700 loadmasters in AMC for this flight instructors cream of the crop award. Appeldoorn, a C-5 loadmaster with the 21st Airlift Squadron, was selected by his director of operations for AMC's highest priority presidential-support mission to Vietnam.

He overcame numerous helicopter and passenger challenges and led his crew through back-to-back 24-hour crew duty days.

"A number of personnel at Travis will be deploying soon, if they haven't already. It's good to know men and women in our force today are of this caliber and quality and are going to be with us on the front lines should we need them," suggested Tauscher.

"It's even better when we know we have these kind of people at Travis, working with us and teaching tomorrow's airmen how to be the 'creme de la creme.'"

In times of peace, CRISIS

Security Forces stand ready to defend Travis, freedom

Being prepared is the first step to winning any battle

As Travis' security posture increased, armed patrols were seen at the gate and around base. Security personnel from both the 60th and 349th SFSs continue to stand vigil at Travis 24 hours a day.



ACTION LINE

Q I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the security forces and all the augmentees working so hard to maintain a constant vigil and ensure the safety of all Travis personnel. The security forces are underappreciated until our own safety is threatened, as it was on Sept. 11. I would ask all Travis personnel to take the opportunity to thank the men and women in our security forces, not only for what they do, but what they give up to keep us safe. My thoughts and prayers are with all military police around the globe, especially those at my doorstep.

A Thank you very much for your recognition of our security forces. Whether active duty or reserve, trained specialists or augmentees, they have been doing a great job the past two weeks and flexibly balanced our need for heightened security with our desire to streamline the availability of base services for our retirees and family members. Please do thank them when you have the chance!

The job is tough, but they're prepared

By SSgt. Jim Verchio
60th AMW Public Affairs

In times of peace as well as in times of crisis, the men and women of the 60th Security Forces Squadron continue to prove they are equipped, trained and prepared to defend Travis' sovereignty at any hour.

It's been 17 days since the tragic events in New York and Virginia that took so many lives. Flags are flying on base and downtown, and America's support of its men and women in uniform is stronger than it's been for generations.

For the media that's camped outside the gate, and for the locals who are so much a part of the Travis community, the image of an airman being ever-vigilant is the first impression they get of the Air Force and Travis.

"These have been very challenging times," said SMSgt. Frank Sotelo, 60th SFS. "With the implementation of any operation, we are faced with manning issues and the need to do more with less. Security forces members are accustomed to this role and adapt well as changes come down. The men and women protecting Travis continue to do the best they can each and every day and will continue to give 110 percent — whether it's here or abroad."

Protecting Travis' perimeter is a large responsibility, but it's not the only area in which security forces mem-

bers receive training.

Security forces officials say its personnel are trained in the areas of resource protection; physical security and antiterrorism tactics just to name a few. These specific areas offer a tremendous knowledge base for making and changing policies on base in relation to the current threat. Since many of the security forces personnel assigned to Travis are experienced in decision making at austere locations, SFS officials are confident Travis' law-enforcement specialists are ready for any threat.

During the height of Travis's security posture, security specialists manned the gates and conducted security checks on almost every vehicle. Traffic at the main gate was almost at a stand-still, but personnel and residents of the base realized the measures were in place to keep them safe.

"Despite the waiting period to get on base, many people were making positive comments and being very supportive of our mission," Sotelo said. "People would even drop off food for the airmen and NCOs on duty — it's good to know our work is being appreciated."

With the ever-changing face of war comes new and innovative ways to counter security threats to military installations. Although no organization can guarantee



Deliveries to Travis continue to undergo meticulous inspections.

Photos by TC Perkins/Visual Information

100 percent safety, security experts know that being prepared is the first step to winning any battle.

"We are ready because we train with the newest equipment and weapons as well as keeping updated on the latest techniques and specialties," Sotelo said. "There is a security forces battle lab specifically designed to teach us how to 'think out of the box' on antiterrorism and force-protection issues. The men and women who work here or call Travis home can rest assured that we will be prepared when called to duty."

Leaning forward

Team Travis sees change in leadership at wing's

Change of Command

The man at the controls of the 60th Air Mobility Wing changed Sept. 21 from Brig. Gen. Thomas P. Kane to Brig. Gen. (select) Dave Leforge. (Right). Spectators stand at parade rest prior to the day's ceremony. (Below left). Colonel Leforge gives thumbs up to Team Travis after taking command. (Below right). General Kane and Colonel Leforge survey the crowd prior to the change of command.



T.C. Perkins/Visual Information



Nan Wylie/Visual Information



Arielle Kohn/Visual Information



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(Above). Maj. Gen. John D. Becker, 15th Air Force commander, passes the 60th AMW flag to Colonel Leforge as Command CMSgt. Dan Johnson, 60th AMW looks on. (Left). General Becker, General Kane and Colonel Leforge march to the stage prior to the ceremony.